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Today's Topics:

                    AMRAD-OSCAR 27 IN ORBIT

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Date: 30 Sep 93 23:56:43 GMT  
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!caen!malgudi.oar.net!witch!amrad!ramays@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: AMRAD-OSCAR 27 IN ORBIT  
To: ham-space@ucsd.edu

AMRAD Announces the Launch of AMRAD-OSCAR 27

The Amateur Radio Research and Development Corporation (AMRAD), of  
McLean, Virginia, is proud to announce the launch and activation  
of a new orbiting satellite carrying amateur radio (OSCAR), named  
AMRAD OSCAR 27 (AO-27). Launch was at 0145 UTC on Sunday, 26  
September onboard the Ariane V.59 mission from the Guyanis Space  
Center in Kourou, French Guiana. AMRAD OSCAR was inserted into  
orbit about 24 minutes after liftoff and was one of seven  
satellites launched on this mission. AMRAD OSCAR 27 was activated  
on the next orbit as it passed over the command station near  
Washington, DC, and was heard by AMRAD members throughout the area.

AMRAD-OSCAR 27 is a secondary amateur communications payload  
carried aboard the EYESAT-1 commercial microsatellite built by  
Interferometrics, Inc., of Vienna, Virginia. The amateur  
equipment on the satellite was constructed by members of AMRAD, a

non-profit organization based in the Northern Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C. Building on its reputation for "high tech ham radio" projects, the AMRAD group built the AMRAD OSCAR 27 payload to conduct digital satellite communications experiments. The payload is now transmitting 1,200 bps AFSK on a frequency of 436.8 MHz on a part time schedule during the on-orbit checkout and commissioning of the parent EYESAT-1 satellite. AMRAD members are preparing information for future release on how to receive and decode telemetry from the AMRAD OSCAR 27 payload. Progress reports on experiments will be distributed on the networks, and provided to the press.

AMRAD congratulates the KITSAT and ITAMSAT teams and the University of Surrey on the launch and activation of their satellites. AMRAD thanks AMSAT-NA for the technical support and encouragement provided during the construction and preparation of the AMRAD OSCAR payload.

For more information about AMRAD, and the AMRAD OSCAR 27 payload, contact AMRAD at P.O. Drawer 6148, McLean, VA 22106-6148. Or call the AMRAD BBS at (703) 734-1387. AMRAD meets each month on the second Thursday at the Dolley Madison Library in McLean, Virginia for technical talks. Club business discussions are limited to the December meeting. AMRAD operates the 147.21 repeater which covers Northern Virginia, Washington, DC, and parts of Maryland.

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